

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Mayor Cranley Calls for Public to Stop Flushing Wet Wipes Down the Toilet

*MSD urges customers to Love Your Loo by only flushing toilet paper, #1, and #2*

CINCINNATI – With nationwide shortages of toilet paper and heightened cleaning of surfaces, more people are flushing items down the toilet that belong in the trash.

Mayor John Cranley and the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) are asking the public to refrain from flushing wet wipes, paper towels, napkins, and other products that can harm the sewers.

The mayor's call to action came during his press conference on Sunday, March 22.

"We will get through this if we work together," Cranley said. "The City of course is going to provide the basic services that we all depend on: police and fire/EMTs, clean water, sanitation services, and sewer services. I want to make a special plug not to flush hand wipes and things like that into the toilet. We have to protect our sewer system through this crisis."



MSD has been spreading the word about what not to flush through its "Love Your Loo" campaign. This initiative urges customers to "Love Your Loo" by only flushing toilet paper, #1, and #2. It also encourages customers to love their sinks and drains.

"Wet wipes, paper towels, and napkins of paper are fibrous and do not break down in water like toilet paper," said Diana Christy, MSD's Director. "They mix with cooking grease

(another “no-no”) and clog pipes. They also wrap around treatment plant equipment and cause failures.”

Flushing the wrong stuff can result in costly home plumbing repairs and sewer backups. The clogs impact the public sewer system as well as interior plumbing and private building.

Here is a list of common items that can clog or block pipes:

- Wet wipes
- Fats, oils, and grease
- Hygiene items (e.g., band aids, diapers, tampons and pads, cotton balls)
- Kitty litter
- Food waste (e.g., coffee grounds and eggs shells)

For more information, please visit MSD’s What Not To Flush page at:

[http://www.msdcg.org/initiatives/what\\_not\\_to\\_flush/index.html](http://www.msdcg.org/initiatives/what_not_to_flush/index.html)

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